Development of a tool/process for AT Country Capacity Assessment – aims:

- To develop a **validated approach** for assessing a country’s capacity for AT provision
- To publish an **WHO tool**: WHO Assistive Technology Capacity Assessment Tool (ATA-C)
- **Impact** at a country level:
  - Implementation in at least 10 countries
  - Develop National action plans in at least 5 countries
- Use findings to **inform**:
  - AT2030 rapid country investment programme (2-3 countries)
  - Future ATscale investment
Benefits of a globally validated approach to Country Capacity Assessment

- Increased country-level awareness on AT
- Support country’s AT planning process
- Track progress
- Identify investment opportunities
- Support business case for investing in AT
- Improve our global, strategic understanding of the impact of different sectors
First steps to decision-making

1. Understand population need for AT.
2. Understand the current and potential capacity a country has to finance, procure, and provide AT.
3. Estimate the gap between population need and country’s capacity to meet the need.
4. Prioritize strategic actions to bridge the gap.
WHO Assistive Technology Assessment (ATA) Toolkit (in development)

- **ATA Needs**: Population based, household survey on AT need, demand, and satisfaction
- **ATA Capacity**: System-level assessment on country capacity to finance, procure and provide AT to meet population needs
- **ATA Impact**: End-user survey to assess outcomes across a range of domains
Introduction to ATA-C

• A system-level assessment tool on the current state of AT access in a country

• Designed to be implemented in collaboration with MoH and related ministries – their leadership is key to successful, sustainable actions towards improving access

Objectives of the ATA-C:

• Awareness raising: Improve a country’s knowledge and understanding of their current AT landscape, specifically, their capacity for AT financing, procurement and provision

• Support policy and programme design: Information obtained from this assessment should support development of National AT strategies or Action Plans
ATA-C Content

1. **Stakeholder** – Identify relevant AT stakeholders in the country or region; understand roles and programs related to AT.

2. **Policy and Financing** – Capture existing AT policies, and AT financing schemes/programs, alongside financing schemes/programs that could potentially be used for future AT financing.

3. **Product and Procurement** – Map the availability of assistive products in the country or region, how quality is assured, and assistive product procurement and supply processes.

4. **Human Resources** – Understand the availability and distribution of general and AT-related health workforce, formal training program for the corresponding workforce, and existence of AT related training in the country or region.

5. **Provision** – Map the service delivery processes that provide AT, which include policies or guidelines for prescribers and providers, and entities and facilities that provide AT.

6. **Population Data** – Identify what information systems exist that collects information related to AT, the prevalence of functional limitations and health conditions where AT is commonly needed.

7. **User perspective** – Capture the experience of users and their challenges in access.
ATA-C Elements

ATA-Capacity Tool
- **Instruction manual** that helps focal persons and respondent understand intentions for each question, key definitions, and how to navigate the survey
- **Excel Data Entry** to record data and information collected throughout the capacity assessment
- **Questionnaires** for the different stakeholder groups

ATA-C Supporting Materials
- Overview PPT deck to introduce the ATA-C
- Guidance/template for written report for country stakeholders
- Sample stakeholder workshop agenda
- Template for country action plan
## Instruction Manual

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<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>The tool’s background and purpose</td>
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<td><strong>Definitions of frequently used terms</strong></td>
<td>Explain key terminologies used throughout the assessment tool to ensure consistent understanding of concepts</td>
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<td><strong>Guide for country focal person</strong></td>
<td>Provides a thorough explanation of the ATA-C implementation process, including a list of potential stakeholders to be involved</td>
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<td><strong>Answers to frequently asked questions</strong></td>
<td>Provide guidance to commonly asked questions regarding the planning and data collection process</td>
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<td><strong>Instructions to complete the Data Entry Sheet</strong></td>
<td>Explain the intention behind each question. Detailed instructions on each question’s purpose and guidance (instructions + notes) on how to answer a question Guide the collection and compilation of contact information of assistive product suppliers, as well as respondents and data sources for the assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sample interview guides and questionnaires</strong></td>
<td>Provide a framework for systematic information gathering while meeting with stakeholders, to be used as a reference for the focal person and adapted as needed</td>
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<td><strong>Appendices</strong></td>
<td>Summarize the product categories and relevant workforce, functional limitations, health conditions of interest, as well as supporting documents requested throughout assessment</td>
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Guide for country focal person and sample interview guides and questionnaires

Guide for country focal person
Selecting key stakeholders by priority (within government, non-government, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders)

Sample questionnaires ordered in priority (essential questions first)
To adapt and give to each key stakeholder interview
To be modified to only include the relevant Q’s for each stakeholder
OR
To be given to all stakeholders, emphasizing that they should only answer the identified relevant questions (highlighted)

Sample interview guides and questionnaires are not exhaustive and should not limit the work of the local focal person, being adapted as needed to fit the context, according to the purpose and aims of the tool and the Instruction Manual.
Data Entry Sheet

WHO ATA-C Data Entry Sheet V3.0

Spreadsheet for easy data reporting
- With skip routines/drop down menus for ease of use
Used by local focal person to compile collected information into a clear, succinct format easily used in reporting
Questions shaded in green are considered ‘essential’ and unshaded questions are considered ‘desirable’
The sample questionnaires and data entry sheet can be adapted for the country context as required, in accordance with the Instructions Manual
Main steps of the ATA-C implementation process

Planning for ATA-C implementation
- Read the instructions manual in detail
- Map stakeholders
- Adapt the questionnaires and data entry sheet to the local context
- Develop a data collection and stakeholder engagement plan

Implementing ATA-C
- Collect data
- Compile data
- Analyze data
- Hold a consensus building workshop to validate data (as required, should discrepancies arise)

Preparing ATA-C outputs
- Hold stakeholder workshop to share findings +/- develop action plan
- Develop key findings report (to inform decision making and programme implementation)
Role of the focal person/s

**Step 1:** Become familiar with the tool and adapt it to the local context (including the Data Entry Sheet and the Interview Guides and Questionnaires)

**Step 2:** Map key stakeholders and develop a data collection plan and a stakeholder engagement plan

**Step 3:** Engage with stakeholders (scheduling interviews and holding an orientation workshop, if needed)

**Step 4:** Share the questionnaires ahead of the interview

**Step 5:** Conduct interviews with stakeholders and conduct desktop research where appropriate

**Step 6:** Follow up with stakeholders to clarify responses and/or missing sections and attachments

**Step 7:** Compile all relevant information from interviews into Data Entry Sheet

**Step 8:** Analyze data (facilitate a consensus workshop to address discrepancies, if needed)

**Step 9:** Plan and deliver a stakeholder workshop to share findings

**Step 10:** Develop key findings report (in adequate formats to inform decision making and program implementation)
Countries where the tool is being implemented

WHO EMRO (led by WHO):
• Pakistan
• Iraq
• Bahrain

WHO WPRO:
• Mongolia (led by GDI Hub)
• Vietnam (led by WHO)

WHO PAHO (led by WHO):
• Bolivia
• Dominican Republic

WHO AFRO (led by CHAI):
• Liberia
• Nigeria
• Sierra Leone (+ UCL)
• Ethiopia
• Malawi
• Rwanda
• Uganda

WHO SEARO (led by CHAI):
• Indonesia (+ UCL)